(c) In order to ensure that posts reserved for SCs and STs are filled by candidates belonging to these categories only, various concessions like relaxation in upper age limit, exemption from payment of examination/application fee, relaxation in qualification regarding experience, relaxation in standards of suitability, etc. are provided to SC/ST candidates. Like-wise, relaxation in upper age limit etc. are given to the OBC candidates in the matter of direct recruitment. There is a ban on de-reservation of reserved vacancies in case of direct recruitment. The Government has been conducting Special Recruitment Drives to fill up the backlog reserved vacancies of these categories from time to time.

Delay in appealing against quottroacchi

†3159. SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to delay in filing appeal against Mr. Ottovio Quottrochhi by CBI he was allowed to escape from Argentina to Italy;

(b) whether it is also a fact that CBI allowed the reopening of sealed bank accounts of Mr. Quottrocchi citing lack of evidence;

(c) whether it is also a fact that due to lack of evidences Mr. Quottrocchi's case has now been closed; and

(d) if so, the action likely to be taken against the officials for dereliction of duty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) The Government of India had made a request to the Government of Argentine for the extradition of Mr. Ottovio Quottrochhi but the same was turned down by the Argentinean Federal Court. An appeal was filed in the Argentinean Supreme Court but was subsequently withdrawn.

(b) The London Accounts of Mr. Quottrochhi were frozen temporarily on July 25, 2003 on the basis of Letters Rogatory issued by the Special Judge, New Delhi as it was suspected to be part of the proceeds of the crime. As no evidence was found connecting the frozen accounts with the criminal case pending against Mr. Quottrochhi, the accounts of Mr. Quottrochhi were de-freezed as per order dated 11.01.2006 of the High Court of Justice, London on an application moved by the Crown Prosecution Service.

(c) On the basis of CBI report and advice of Ld. Attorney General of India and Solicitor General of India, the Government has given its consent to withdraw the Court Case No.2/2002 against Ottavio Quattrochhi, accused in the Bofors case under section 321 of Cr.P.C. CBI has filed an application before the trial Court of Ld. CMM, Delhi for the purpose.

(d) Does not arise in view of (a) to (c) above.

CBI cases in Goa

3160. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.